



DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
1432 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 85, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825-3241
TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2300
FAX: (916) 263-2140
www.dbc.ca.gov



EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

BEST WESTERN ISLAND PALMS HOTEL and MARINA
2051 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106
Thursday, November 17, 2005

Members Present:

George SooHoo, DDS, Chair
Newton Gordon, DDS
Alan Kaye, DDS
Harriet Seldin, DDS

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Robert Hedrick, Executive Officer
Georgetta Coleman-Griffith, Assistant Executive Officer
Donna Kantner, Regulations Analyst
Greg Salute, Deputy Attorney General
LaVonne Powell, DCA Legal Counsel

Chair SooHoo called the meeting to order at 2:40p.m., and Member Gordon called the roll, establishing a quorum.

Agenda Item 11.1 – Approval of Minutes of August 18, 2005 Meeting:

Legal Counsel asked that her comment regarding the contract negotiation process be taken out of the minutes on page 2, 6th paragraph. Edmund Carolan, CDA, noted that Dr. Yokoyama was indicated as an absent member when he was no longer a member of the Board. Member Gordon felt that the minutes should be corrected because they erroneously report that foreign trained dentists are allowed to take the ADEX exam. Dr. Ariane Terlet, the maker of the statement clarified that she had said that, but that the ADEX exam would be given in two formats: the SIF format and also an examination similar to the Board's at the end of the year. Member Gordon felt that should be clarified in the minutes. It was M/S/C (Gordon/Kaye) to accept the minutes of the August 18 meeting as corrected.

Agenda Item 11.2 – Auxiliary Examination Statistics

Informational item only. No discussion.

Agenda Item 11.3 – Ad Hoc Committee on Grading Report

Member Hundley reported that he and Dr. Sahabi had evaluated methods to improve the pass rate of the candidates for the state board exam. He reported that applicants must

demonstrate fitness in written English, clinical components, and California law and ethics. He reported that they had evaluated the methods of testing, including examiner calibration and observation of work done by candidates. In order to have a better pass rate, they recommended that the scoring process be changed to four categories – satisfactory, minimally satisfactory, moderately substandard and critically deficient.

JoAnn Galliano, CDHA, was concerned that dentists are allowed to pass an examination in which they failed one portion. She noted that hygienists are required to pass each segment of their clinical examination to achieve licensure and felt public protection could be compromised by licensing dental candidates who have failed portions of the examination.

Dr. Ariane Terlet noted that California is one of very few states that allow a candidate to be licensed after failing one segment of the exam, much less two. She felt it is a critical issue.

Dr. Earl Johnson felt that it is the job of the Board to establish that if a candidate fails, they shouldn't pass.

Chair SooHoo noted that the pass rate is 75%, the Occupational Analysis has recently been completed, that will be taken into account along with the recommendation of the Committee. Member Seldin asked if by approving the report the Board was adopting the recommendation. Chair SooHoo responded that it meant that the report would be taken under advisement and the recommendation would be discussed along with other information.

Agenda Item 11.4 – Consideration of ADEX Proposal for Membership

Chair SooHoo noted that ADEX had sent a letter out to all the state boards encouraging membership and participation in their exam development process.

Dr. Ariane Terlet, speaking as a board member of ADEX, reported that ADEX understands that California cannot participate because under California law the ADEX examination cannot be recognized. She indicated that this would require legislative action, and asked that the ADEX examination be agendized for the January meeting of the Examination Committee for a presentation of the ADEX examination content and grading process.

Chair SooHoo agreed to agendize the presentation for the January meeting.

Agenda Item 11.5 – Examination Statistics

Chair SooHoo noted that this item is informational only.

Agenda Item 11.6 – Consideration of Increasing Examiner Compensation

Chair SooHoo noted that examiner compensation for California board examiners is substantially less than what is paid by other examining entities such as WREB, NERB, Southern Regional and Central Regional. Edmund Carolan, CDA, felt that comparison with other states would be valuable. Member Seldin asked why this issue arose, is there an

insufficient number of examiners or are there complaints by examiners. Member Kaye noted that the examiners felt they are underpaid for their time and expertise, and to retain good examiners the incentive must be there. Member Gordon noted there should not be an extreme negative cash flow for examiners attending exams, it causes examiners to drop out. Dr. Bob White, Chief Examiner for Southern California, stated that most examiners give up income of \$1200 – 1500 per day to do our exam. He felt that pay was probably the least of the reasons that examiners come out for exams, however it would be a compliment to those who do exams to receive an increase.

Chair SooHoo reported that examiners arrive at 6:00a.m. and many times are not finished until 7:30pm. He noted it is difficult to recruit new examiners at \$125 per day. M/S/P (Kaye/Gordon) to increase the per diem paid to examiners to \$250 per day plus travel expenses, subject to a Budget Change Proposal.

Agenda Item 11.7 – Review and Discussion of the Occupational Analysis of the Dental Licensure Examination

Chair SooHoo proposed a Task Force to restructure the examination, composed of two educators, two private practitioners, the Office of Exam Resources, Chief Examiners and the calibrator. This Task Force would review the Occupational Analysis, Part 1 and Part 2 of the National Board exam, and the current Dental Licensure exam to streamline the current exam by eliminating duplicative testing and review the grading of the California dental exam.

Agenda Item 11.8 – Tentative Exam Dates for 2006

Chair SooHoo asked that the proposed dates of February 9-12 be eliminated due to calibration and examiner constraints. M/S/P (Kaye/Gordon) to accept the dates as published with the elimination of February 9-12.

Public Comment

Teresa Pichay, CDA, asked for the Board's support and the input of Board staff and examiners for development of a pilot exam for licensure by graduation models. M/S/P (Kaye/Seldin) to agendaize for the next meeting of the Examination Committee.

George Greg, USC graduate, asked when information would be available regarding application for WREB candidates for dental licensure. Legal Counsel Powell noted that this discussion would take place at the full Board meeting tomorrow.

JoAnn Galliano, CDHA, asked that the RDH member of the Board be on the Exam Committee as decisions are made regarding hygiene exams.

Edmund Carolan, CDA, asked about the discrepancy in the dates for the Board meeting, Executive Officer Robert Hedrick noted that those dates had been adjusted to accommodate the tentative exam date schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30p.m.